

# City of Milwaukee

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## **Public Outdoor Recreation Plan For City of Milwaukee Neighborhoods 2001-2005**



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**John O. Norquist, Mayor**

**City of Milwaukee - December, 2000**

Plan Jointly Prepared by:

City of Milwaukee Department of Public Works

City of Milwaukee Department of City Development

Milwaukee Public Schools Department of School and Community Services

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Public Outdoor Recreation Plan for City of Milwaukee Neighborhoods, 2001-2005 fosters coordination between the three agencies which prepared this document: the City Departments of Public Works and of City Development and the Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS) Department of School and Community Services. This plan provides a policy framework for determining project priorities and qualifies the City and MPS for State recreational assistance programs.

Chapter 1, The Context of This Plan, explains the recreational-related responsibilities of each agency.

Chapter 2, Community Profile, provides information on Milwaukee's population.

Chapter 3, Recreational Facilities Descriptions and Standards, defines types of recreational sites and the age groups they are designed to serve.

Chapter 4, Recreation System Inventory, lists all of Milwaukee's City and Public School outdoor recreational facilities and provides basic information about each site.

Chapter 5, Recreation Goals and Policies, outlines five goals: *1.To ensure adequate public outdoor recreational facilities for all citizens; 2.To ensure the best and most efficient use of City resources in meeting needs; 3.To balance recreational development with the City's goals for other land uses; 4.To conserve natural resources and significant natural features; and 5.To ensure accessibility and availability to people with disabilities.* Supporting policies are defined for each of these five goals.

Chapter 6, Needs Analysis, indicates that the city exceeds acreage standards for most types of facilities (playfields, neighborhood parks, and community parks) and is close to meeting the playground standard. In developing priorities for specific facilities, the City and MPS rely on attendance data, data on the physical condition of sites, and public input.

Chapter 7, The Local Action Plan, defines six general public outdoor recreational recommendations for the City and MPS: *1.To continue to monitor maintenance needs and use this data to schedule maintenance and improvement projects; 2.To continue the policy of extending the use of existing sites by developing them more intensively; 3.To assess the costs of proposed acquisitions, improvements, and dispositions; 4.To work with other governmental and private organizations in improving public access to natural resource areas; 5.To continue to review the current utilization of facilities; and 6.To utilize the safest and most technically advanced recreational systems.* Chapter 7 also lists specific projects expected to be undertaken in the five year planning period.

## **CHAPTER 1: THE CONTEXT OF THIS PLAN**

The City of Milwaukee Public Outdoor Recreation Plan for 2001 to 2005 has two purposes. One is to meet the requirements of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and various other grant-in-aid programs, so that the City will retain eligibility for the State's recreational assistance programs. The other is to serve as the City's comprehensive plan for playground and other public outdoor recreational facilities.

The City has been preparing five-year public outdoor recreation plans since 1973. Like the previous plans, this report is a cooperative effort between the City of Milwaukee Department of Public Works, the City of Milwaukee Department of City Development, and the Milwaukee Public Schools Department of School and Community Services. It is important that this document be a cooperative effort, because these three agencies share responsibility for the planning, development, and operation of the City's public outdoor recreational facilities.

Overall City policies regarding the provision of public outdoor recreational facilities are set by the Mayor and the Common Council. The Mayor and the Common Council also make decisions regarding the acquisition, development, and funding of recreational facilities.

The City Plan Commission is responsible for general recommendations on recreation needs, goals, plans, and specific sites to acquire. The Department of City Development serves as staff for the Plan Commission.

The City's Department of Public Works develops and maintains playlots, totlots, and passive areas throughout the city. The Department also designs and carries out the construction and reconstruction of the city's playgrounds and playfields operated and maintained by the Milwaukee Public Schools.

The Milwaukee Public Schools Department of School and Community Services develops, maintains, and coordinates playgrounds and playfields. Most of these sites are adjacent to schools, but some are freestanding. The Department provides leadership for supervised playgrounds and playfields, including some sites in County parks. It works with the Department of City Development and the Department of Public Works in making recreation planning and policy recommendations and in selecting sites. The Department cooperates with the Department of Public Works in reviewing general facility plans for each recreational area to be supervised and maintained by the Milwaukee Public Schools.

It should be noted that two other jurisdictions own and operate public outdoor recreational facilities in the City of Milwaukee. The State of Wisconsin operates the Havenwoods Forest Preserve, and Milwaukee County is responsible for an extensive park and parkway system. Most of the County's parks are large and serve the entire Milwaukee community as well as their immediate neighborhoods.

## **CHAPTER 2: COMMUNITY PROFILE**

### **POPULATION**

The City of Milwaukee's population is large and diverse. The 1990 Census counted a population of 628,088, down slightly from the 1980 Census count of 636,212. The City comprises 65 percent of the population of Milwaukee County, 44 percent of the population of the Milwaukee Metropolitan Region, and 13 percent of the population of Wisconsin.

According to the 1990 Census, the City's population was 61 percent White non-Hispanic, 30 percent Black, 6 percent Hispanic, 2 percent Asian, and 1 percent American Indian. The City is more diverse than it was in 1980, when the population was 71 percent White non-Hispanic, 23 percent Black, 4 percent Hispanic, and 2 percent Asian or American Indian.

Twenty-seven percent of the City's population in 1990 was under 18 years of age and 12 percent was 65 years or older. These are almost identical to the percentages in these age groups in the 1980 Census.

Milwaukee had 240,540 households in the 1990 Census, compared to 241,817 in 1980. Thirty-four percent of the City's households in 1990 had children, which is very close to the percentage of households with children in 1980. A significant change occurred during the decade, however, in the number of single-parent families. In 1990, single parents headed 48 percent of families with children; in contrast, this percentage was only 36 in 1980.

Seventy-one percent of the City's male population 16 years and older were in the labor force in 1990, down slightly from the 1980 figure of 74 percent. In contrast, the percentage of the City's female population 16 years and older who were in the labor force increased, from 54 percent in 1980 to 58 percent in 1990. The unemployment rate increased during the decade, from 6.6 percent in 1980 to 8.9 percent in 1990.

According to the 1990 Census, 18 percent of the City's households had incomes below the poverty level, a significant increase over the 1980 Census level of 12 percent. The greatest increase in poverty was among family households headed by a single female. Forty-five percent of female-headed families in the 1990 Census were below the poverty level, compared to 34 percent in the 1980 census.

New to the 1990 census were two questions about mobility limitations and self-care limitations of the population 15 years and older. A mobility limitation is defined as a long-term health condition, which makes it difficult to go outside the home alone, and a self-care limitation is a long-term health condition, which makes it difficult to take care of personal needs. Both refer to a physical or mental health condition, which has lasted for 6 or more months, and exclude temporary health problems such as broken bones that are expected to heal normally. Nine percent of the City's population 15 years and older had either one or both of these limitations.

The Community Profile will be updated with the 2000 census data as soon as it is made available.

## **NATURAL RESOURCE FEATURES**

The Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC) has identified areas of the Southeastern Wisconsin Region with significant natural resource value. These areas contain such natural resource features as shorelands, woodlands, and major bodies of surface water.

SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report 132, "A Park and Open Space Plan for Milwaukee County," published in November 1991, contains a map of the natural resource areas found in Milwaukee County. Within the City of Milwaukee, the most significant natural resource areas are located along Lake Michigan and the Little Menomonee, Menomonee, and Milwaukee Rivers.

## **CHAPTER 3: RECREATIONAL FACILITY DESCRIPTIONS AND STANDARDS**

Five types of public outdoor recreational areas are developed and maintained by the City of Milwaukee and the Milwaukee Public Schools:

### **Playfields**

A playfield is an intensive-use area for organized sports activities serving youths and adults at both the neighborhood and community levels. Playfields contain facilities like football and soccer fields, hardball and softball diamonds, and tennis courts. Playfields are targeted to the population 15 years and older.

### **Playgrounds**

A playground is a highly developed; intensive-use facility primarily serving neighborhood and school children aged 5-18 years. Playgrounds also provide recreational opportunities for young adults. Playgrounds include both paved and turf areas for play apparatus and activities such as basketball and softball.

### **Playlots**

A playlot is an intensive-use area smaller than a playground; it is usually found in areas without sufficient space for development of a full-sized playground. Playlots are targeted to 5-12 year old children.

### **Totlots**

A totlot is a small facility with play apparatus for use by preschool children and elementary school pupils. Totlots are frequently incorporated into playfields, playgrounds, and playlots. The targeted population is 12 years and younger.

### **Greenspaces**

A greenspace is a primarily passive recreational area, which serves all age groups. Greenspaces may also provide opportunities for more active recreational pursuits such as hiking or rollerskating.

Spatial standards for playfields, playgrounds, playlots, totlots, greenspaces, and other types of public outdoor recreational areas are shown in Table 1. These standards are based on the recommendations of the National Recreation and Park Association. The standards are not absolute requirements for the provision of recreational facilities but are used as a guide in needs assessment and planning.



**Table 1: SPATIAL STANDARDS FOR PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL AREAS**

<i>Type of Area</i>	<i>Age Group</i>	<i>Type of Use</i>	<i>Radius of Influence</i>	<i>Facilities</i>	<i>Size Standard</i>	<i>Minimum Site Size</i>	<i>Locational Factors</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
<b>Neighborhood-Oriented Walk-To Facilities</b>								
Playground	Primarily 5-18; also includes young adults	Active	1/4 to 1/2 mile	Paved and turf areas for play apparatus; softball; landscaped periphery; may include totlot	1.25 acres per 1,000 people in service area	3 acres	Near center of neighborhood; no heavily traveled streets to cross; preferably contiguous to elementary school	Paved portion of playground should total at least 100 sq. adjoining school
Neighborhood Park	All ages	Passive but usually includes active	1/2 to 1 mile	Shaded, landscaped area; picnic facilities; semi-active game area (horseshoes e.g.); fieldhouse, wading pool; usually includes totlot, playground	1 acre per 1,000 people in service area	8 acres	Near center of neighborhood	When school playground and park are contiguous, less land area may be required
<b>Neighborhood / Community-Oriented Facilities (Parking Desirable)</b>								
Playfield	15 and older	Active	1/2 to 1 mile	Organized sports (hardball, football, e.g.); tennis; may include spectator facilities; landscaped periphery; fieldhouse or shelter	1.25 acres per 1,000 people in service area	10 acres	Near center of area served	Some playfields are metropolitan in nature (Wick Field e.g.) because they are sports complexes intended for organized league sports
Community Park	All ages	Passive and active	1 to 2 miles	Facilities of community significance; selection of items found in regional parks; usually includes neighborhood park, playfield	1 acre per 1,000 people in service area	30 acres	Near center of area served, preferably adjacent to high school	

**Table 1: SPATIAL STANDARDS FOR PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL AREAS**

<i>Type of Area</i>	<i>Age Group</i>	<i>Type of Use</i>	<i>Radius of Influence</i>	<i>Facilities</i>	<i>Size Standard</i>	<i>Minimum Site Size</i>	<i>Locational Factors</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
<b>Larger Facilities (Parking Provided)</b>								
Metropolitan Park	All ages	Passive and active	3 to 4 miles (primary use)	Facilities found in smaller areas and selection of items found in regional parks	5.5 acres per 1,000 people in service area	100 acres	Any accessible area that meets needs	Metropolitan parks serve the entire county and total need is based on the county population
Regional Park	All ages	Passive and active	Southeastern Wis. Region	May include wooded area, open lawn and meadow, natural features, hiking or nature trails, swimming pool or beach, golf, skating rink, winter sports facilities, conservatory, boat launching	Provides additional community or metro park space	250 acres	Within a one hour drive of home	
<b>Special Facilities</b>								
Totlot	12 and under	Active	1/4 to 1/2 mile	Play apparatus; landscaping and benches for parents	None	2,500 sq. ft.	Preferably isolated portion of larger facility; provided in neighborhoods where private rear yard space is lacking, the ratio of young children to total population is considerably higher than average, and/or there is neighborhood demand for such a facility	

**Table 1: SPATIAL STANDARDS FOR PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL AREAS**

<i>Type of Area</i>	<i>Age Group</i>	<i>Type of Use</i>	<i>Radius of Influence</i>	<i>Facilities</i>	<i>Size Standard</i>	<i>Minimum Site Size</i>	<i>Locational Factors</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
Special Facilities (cont.)								
Playlot	5-12 years	Active	1/4 to 1/2 mile	Turf area for self-directed play	None	No minimum	Where vacant public areas are available	Covered by playground standard, since relieves playground space or locational deficiencies
Greenspaces, parkways, boulevards, bluffs, nature centers	All ages	Passive and active	Varies by type of facility	Primarily natural features	None	No minimum		These can meet some needs for other recreational areas if they are of sufficient size and have the necessary facilities

The City and Schools share responsibility for land acquisition, facility development, and facility maintenance, but only MPS provides play supervision of public outdoor recreational facilities. The division of responsibility, as outlined in Table 2, reflects a resolution adopted by the City's Common Council in 1955.

**TABLE 2**  
**JURISDICTIONAL RESPONSIBILITY**

	<b><u>Land Acquisition</u></b>	<b><u>Facility Development</u></b>	<b><u>Facility Maintenance</u></b>	<b><u>Play Supervision</u></b>
<b>Playfields</b>	City	City	Schools	Schools
<b>Playgrounds</b>	City and Schools	City and Schools <sup>a</sup>	Schools	Schools
<b>Playlots</b> City	City	City	Parents <sup>b</sup>	
<b>Totlots</b>	City <sup>c</sup>	City	City	Parents
<b>Greenspaces</b>	City	City	City	Not Applicable

<sup>a</sup> The Schools develop paved playground areas; the City may construct additional turf or paved areas and install play apparatus.

<sup>b</sup> Playlots are primarily for informal play; the Schools may provide supervisors for special activities.

<sup>c</sup> Ideally, totlots should be constructed in an isolated area within a larger recreational facility, which allows the Schools to provide supplemental supervision.

There are several other types of public outdoor recreational facilities which are not discussed above because they are not the kind of facilities generally under the jurisdiction of the City or MPS. Table 1 contains a complete typology of outdoor recreational sites and describes the spatial standards for each type.

The other types of facilities commonly found in the city and county of Milwaukee are neighborhood parks and community parks. Milwaukee County is the primary provider of these two types of facilities.

A neighborhood park is a landscaped natural park, which provides primarily passive recreational opportunities to the residents of an entire neighborhood; neighborhood parks also generally include facilities for some active play, such as horseshoes or a children's wading pool. Neighborhood parks have a radius of influence of 1/2 to 1 mile and a minimum site size of 8 acres. National Recreation and Park Association standards require 1 acre of neighborhood parkland per 1,000 people.

A community park is a large natural park with opportunities for both active and passive recreational pursuits. Community parks have a radius of influence of 1 to 2 miles and a minimum site size of 30 acres. The recommended standard is 1 acre per 1,000 people.

## **CHAPTER 4: RECREATION SYSTEM INVENTORY**

Table 3 lists public outdoor recreational areas in the city. This inventory, which was compiled in 1999, shows the total acreage and types of facilities at each site.

The City has 420 acres in City-owned playfields, playgrounds, playlots, totlots, passive areas and other City-owned sites, and 942 acres in Milwaukee Public Schools playgrounds and playfields. Maps 1 and 2 show the location of these sites. In addition the city contains 4,539 acres of County Park land and 237 acres in the Havenwoods Forest Preserve which is owned by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

**TABLE 3**  
**PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL AREAS IN THE CITY OF MILWAUKEE**  
**PART A --- CITY OF MILWAUKEE - PLAYFIELDS, PLAYGROUNDS & NEIGHBORHOOD PLAY AREAS**

**PLAYFIELDS & PLAYGROUNDS**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Acreage</b>	<b>Children's Play Area</b>	<b>Softball/ Baseball</b>	<b>Basketball</b>	<b>Football/ Soccer</b>	<b>Tennis</b>
Beulah Brinton Playfield	S. Bay & E. Potter	7	X	X	X	X	
Burbank Playfield	S. 64th & W. Adler	7	X	X			
Burnham Playfield	S. 35th & W. Burnham	13	X	X	X	X	X
Carmen Playfield	N. 73rd & W. Carmen	4	X	X	X		
Cass Playground	N. Cass & E. Kewaunee	2	X		X		X
Cleveland Playground	S. 10th & W. Cleveland	4	X	X	X		X
Clovernook Playfield	N. 71st & W. Clovernook	8	X	X	X	X	X
Columbia Playground	N. 13th & W. Columbia	3	X		X		
Custer Playfield	N. 40th & W. Custer	4	X	X	X	X	
Dyer Playfield	N. 80th & W. Stevenson	7	X	X	X	X	X
Emigh Playfield	S. Quincy & E. Warnimont	11	X	X	X	X	X
Enderis Playfield	N. 72nd & W. Locust	10	X	X	X		X
Franklin Square Playground	N. 13th & W. Center	3	X	X	X		
Gra-Ram Playfield	S. Green & W. Ramsey	5	X	X	X		X
Green Bay Playfield	N. 8th & W. Melvina	2	X	X			X
Hawthorn Glen Outdoor Education Center	N. 60th & W. State	23	X	X		X	
Holt Playground	S. 17th & W. Holt	4	X	X	X		X
Jewel Playfield	S. 19th & W. Wood	6	X	X	X	X	X
Juneau Playfield	N. 64th & W. Mt Vernon	8		X	X	X	X
Lewis Playfield	S. Linebarger & E. Pryor	4	X	X	X		
Lincoln Playfield	S. 3rd & W. Lincoln	7		X		X	X
Lloyd Street Playfield	N. 13th & W. Lloyd	7		X		X	
Merrill Park Playfield	S. 35th & W. Clybourn	12	X	X	X	X	X
Metcalfe Playfield	N. 33rd & W. Meinecke	4		X	X	X	
Norris Playground	N. 19th & W. Kilbourn	2	X		X		
Ohio Playground	S. 10th & W. Ohio	4	X	X	X		X
Pulaski Street Playfield	N. Pulaski & E. Kane	2	X	X	X		X
Pumping Station Playfield	N. Humboldt & E. Chambers	7	X	X	X	X	X
Reservoir Park	N. Bremen & E. North	50	X	X	X	X	
Rogers Playfield	S. 35th & W. Rogers	6		X		X	

## PART A --- CITY OF MILWAUKEE - PLAYFIELDS, PLAYGROUNDS & NEIGHBORHOOD PLAY AREAS

### PLAYFIELDS & PLAYGROUNDS (CONTINUED)

Name	Location	Acreage	Play Area	Softball/ Baseball	Basketball	Football/ Soccer	Tennis
Sijan Playfield	S. California & Kinnickinnic	16	X	X	X	X	X
Southlawn Playground	S. 25th & W. Ohio	2	X		X		
Stark Playfield	N. 41st & W. Stark	5	X	X	X		X
Uncas Playground	S. 3rd & W. Uncas	2	X	X	X		X
View Playground	S. 3rd & W. National	2	X		X		X
Vincent Playfield	Granville & W. Calumet	29		X		X	X
Warnimont Playground	S. 1st & W. Warnimont	3		X	X		X
Wick Playfield	N. 49th & W. Vliet	22	X	X		X	X

### NEIGHBORHOOD PLAY AREAS

Allen	S. 4th & W. Mitchell	<1	X	X	X		
Allis Street	S. Allis & W. Ward	<1	X				
Bay View Basketball	S. Bay & E. Lincoln	<1			X		
Bremen Street	N. Bremen & E. Burleigh	1	X				
Butterfly Park	N. 37th & W. Meinecke	2	X				
Darien & Kiley		3	X	X			
Eighteenth & Washington		<1	X				
Eighty-fourth & Burbank		1	X				
Eighty-fourth & Florist		1	X				
Ellen Park	S. Ellen & E. Fernwood	6	X	X	X	X	X
Fifth & Randolph		<1	X				
Fifty -first & Stack		1	X	X			
First & Hadley		1					
First & Keefe		<1	X				
First & Wright		<1	X				
Fortieth & Douglas		1			X		
Forty-fifth & Keefe		<1	X				
Forty-ninth & Juneau		2	X		X		
Fourth & Mineral		<1	X				
Kaszube Park	Jones Island	<1					



# **PART A --- CITY OF MILWAUKEE - PLAYFIELDS, PLAYGROUNDS & NEIGHBORHOOD PLAY AREAS**

## **NEIGHBORHOOD PLAY AREAS (CONTINUED)**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Acreage</b>	<b>Play Area</b>	<b>Softball/ Baseball</b>	<b>Basketball</b>	<b>Football/ Soccer</b>	<b>Tennis</b>
Long Island Drive	Long Island & Lawn	<1	X				
Marcus DeBack Playground	N. 55 & W. Wright	1	X		X		
Nancy Elizabeth Trowbridge Square	S. 38th & W. Branting La.	<1	X				
Ninetieth & Bender		3	X	X			
Ninety-seventh & Thurston		2	X		X		
Paliafito Park	S. 3rd & W. Walker	<1					
Reiske Park	S. 23rd & W. Lapham	3	X				X
River Bend	S. 73rd & W. River Bend	1	X		X		
Seventeenth & Vine		<1	X		X		
Seventy-eigh & Fiebrantz		2	X				
Sixteenth & Edgerton		1	X		X		X
Sixteenth & Hopkins		<1	X				
Sixty-fifth & Stevenson		4					
Sixty-second & Kaul		<1	X				
Sixty-seventh & Spokane		2	X				
Sixty-sixth & Port		6	X	X	X	X	
Thirteenth & Lapham		<1	X				
Thirtieth & Cawker		<1	X		X		
Thirtieth & Fardale		8					
Thirtieth & Galena		<1	X				
Thirty-fifth & Lincoln		<1					
Thirty-fifth & Pierce		3	X	X	X		X
Thirty-first & Lloyd		<1	X				
Thirty-fourth & Mt. Vernon		<1	X				
Thirty-sixth & Rogers		3	X				
Twelfth & Wright		1	X		X		
Twentieth & Olive		1	X		X		
Twenty- first & Keefe		<1	X				
Twenty- first & Rogers		<1	X				
Twenty-ninth & Meinecke		<1	X				
Twenty-ninth & Melivina		1	X		X		X
Zillman Park	Kinnickinnic & W. Ward	1					

## PART B --- MILWAUKEE PUBLIC SCHOOL PLAYGROUNDS & PLAYFIELDS

### ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Name	Location	Acreage	Play Area	Softball/ Baseball	Basketball	Football/ Soccer	Tennis
Alcott School	S. 97th & W. Eden	9	X		X		X
Allen-Field School	S. 8th & W. Lapham	4	X		X		
Auer Avenue School	N. 23rd & W. Auer	6	X		X		
Barton School & Playfield	N. 57th & W. Green Tree	7		X	X		
Brown Street School	N. 20th & W. Brown	4	X		X		
Browning School & Playfield	N. 76th & W. Silver Spring	8	X	X	X		
Bruce School & Playfield	N. 89th & W. Brentwood	6		X	X		
Bryant School & Playfield	N. 89th & W. Carmen	14	X	X	X		X
Burbank School	S. 64th & W. Adler	4	X		X		
Burdick School	S. Griffin & E. Bolivar	3			X		
Carleton School	N. 41st & W. Silver Spring	4	X		X		
Cass Street School	N. Cass & E. Kewaunee	1					
Clark Street School & Playfield	N. 28th & W. Clarke	4	X	X	X		
Clemens School & Playfield	N. 36th & W. Hope	5	X	X	X		
Clement Avenue School	S. Clement & E. Wilbur	5			X		
Congress School	N. 52nd & W. Congress	5	X		X		
Cooper School & Playfield	S. 21st & W. Abbott	9	X	X	X		X
Craig School	N. 76th & W. Congress	4	X		X		
Curtin School	S. 32nd & W. Morgan	7	X		X		
Doerfler School	S. 30th & W. Scott	2	X		X		
Douglass School	N. 37 & W. Townsend	1			X		
Dover School	Kinnickinnic & E. Dover	3	X		X		
Eighty-first Street School	N. 81st & W. Chambers	4		X	X		
Elm Creative Arts School	N. 9th & W. Walnut	4	X		X		
Emerson School	N. 90th & W. Congress	3			X		
Engleburg School	N. 91st & W. Appleton	5	X		X		
Fairview School & Playfield	S. 63rd & W. Stack	11	X	X	X		
Fernwood School	S. Pennsylvania & S. Falling Heath	4	X		X		
Fifty-third Street School & Playfield	N. 53rd & W. Nash	8	X	X	X		
Forest Home Avenue School	S. 15th & W. Forest Home	4	X		X		
Franklin School	N. 23rd & W. Nash	2	X		X		
Fratney School	N. Fratney & E. Concordia	2	X		X		
Gaenslen School	N. Dousman & E. Auer	7	X		X		

## PART B --- MILWAUKEE PUBLIC SCHOOL PLAYGROUNDS & PLAYFIELDS

### ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS (CONTINUED)

Name	Location	Acreage	Play Area	Softball/ Baseball	Basketball	Football/ Soccer	Tennis
Garden Homes School & Playfield	N. Teutonia & W. Ruby	11	X	X	X		
Garfield Avenue School	N. 4th & W. Garfield	2	X		X		
Garland School	S. 14th & W. Goldcrest	5	X		X		
Goodrich School	N. Celina & W. Joseph	8	X		X		
Grant School	S. 29th & W. Grant	3	X		X		
Grantosa School	N. 82nd & W. Grantosa	6	X		X		
Granville School	N. 95th & W. Allyn	9	X		X		
Green Bay Avenue School	N. 8th & W. Melvina	3	X		X		
Greenfield School	S. 35th & W. Mitchell	2	X		X		
Hampton School & Playfield	N. 53rd & W. Fairmount	11	X	X	X	X	
Happy Hill School	N. 70th & W. Brown Deer	7					
Hartford University School	N. Maryland & E. Hartford	3	X		X		
Hawley Environmental School	N. Hawley & W. Wisconsin	2	X		X		
Hawthorne School	N. 41st & W. Vera	5			X		
Hayes School	S. 10th & W. Hayes	1	X		X		
Hi-Mount School	N. Hi Mount & W. Garfield	3	X		X		
Holmes School	N. Buffum & E. Wright	4	X		X		
Honey Creek School	S. 67th & W. Eden		X		X		
Hopkins School	N. 15th & W. Locust	4	X		X		
Humboldt Park School	S. Adams & E. Euclid	4	X		X		
Kagel School	S. 12th & W. Mineral	4	X		X		
Keefe School	N. 16th & W. Keefe	4			X		
Kilbourn School	N. 68th & W. Grantosa	4	X		X		
Kluge School	N. 66th & W. Thurston	8	X		X		
La Follette School	N. 9th & W. Ring	4	X		X		
Lancaster School & Playfield	N. 68th & W. Lancaster	7	X	X	X		
Lee School	N. 9th & W. Meinecke	3	X		X		
Lincoln Avenue School	S. 18th & W. Lincoln	3	X		X		
Lloyd Street School	N. 12th & W. Lloyd	5	X		X		
Longfellow School	S. 21st & W. Mineral	4	X		X		
Lowell School & Playfield	S. 20th & W. Whitaker	10	X	X	X		X
MacDowell School	N. 17th & W. Highland	3	X		X		
Manitoba School	S. 40th & W. Forest Home	10	X		X		

## PART B --- MILWAUKEE PUBLIC SCHOOL PLAYGROUNDS & PLAYFIELDS

### ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS (CONTINUED)

Name	Location	Acreage	Play Area	Softball/ Baseball	Basketball	Football/ Soccer	Tennis
Maple Tree School & Playfield	N. 106th & W. Daphne	10	X	X	X		
Martin Luther King Jr. School	N. 3rd & W. Ring	4	X		X		
Maryland Avenue School	N. Maryland & N. Prospect	4	X		X		
McNair Academy School & Playfield	N. 24th & W. Fairmount	8	X	X	X		
Meir School	N. 4th & W. Galena	1	X		X		
Milw. French Immer. School & Playfield	S. 88th & W. Warnimont	8	X	X	X		
Milw. German Immer. School	N. 81st & W. Nash	9	X		X		
Milw. Sign Lang. School	N. 79th & W. Acacia		X		X		
Milw. Spanish Immer. School	S. 55th & W. Montana	6	X		X		
Mitchell School	S. 23rd & W. Mitchell	2	X		X		
Morgandale School	S. 17th & W. Wilbur	3	X		X		
Neeskara School	N. Hawley & W. Galena	4	X		X		
Ninety-fifth Street School & Playfield	N. 95th & W. Metcalf	7	X	X	X		
Palmer School	N. Palmer & E. Brown	3	X		X		
Parkview School & Playfield	N. 108th & W. Villard	9	X	X	X		
Philipp School	N. 16th & W. Olive	3	X		X		
Pierce School	N. Fratney & E. Hadley	3	X		X		
Riley School	S. 4th & W. Hayes	2	X		X		
River Trail School	N. 121st & W. Florest	8	X		X		
Seventy-eighth Street School	S. 78th & W. Wilbur	13	X		X		X
Sherman School	N. 51st & W. Locust	4	X		X		
Siefert School	N. 14th & W. Galena	3	X		X		
Silver Spring School	N. Green Bay & W. Villard	4	X		X		
Sixty-eighth Street School	N. 68th & W. Moltke	1	X		X		
Sixth-fifth Street School & Playfield	N. 65th & W. Capitol	6		X	X		X
Starms School	N. 26th & W. Garfield	2	X		X		
Story School	N. 38th & W. Kilbourn	3	X		X		
Stuart School	N. 86th & W. Helena	6	X		X		
Thirty-eighth Street School	N. 38th & W. Clarke	3	X		X		
Thirty-fifth Street School	N. 35th & W. Courtland	2	X		X		
Thirty-seventh Street School	N. 37th & W. Roberts	2	X		X		
Thoreau School & Playfield	N. 60th & W. bradley	11	X	X	X		X
Thurston Woods School	N. 35th & W. Florest	4	X		X		

## PART B --- MILWAUKEE PUBLIC SCHOOL PLAYGROUNDS & PLAYFIELDS

### ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS (CONTINUED)

Name	Location	Acreage	Play Area	Softball/ Baseball	Basketball	Football/ Soccer	Tennis
Tippecanoe School	S. Whitnall & E. Howard	1	X		X		
Townsend School	N. Sherman & W. Townsend	3	X		X		
Trowbridge School	S. Delaware & E. Trowbridge	2	X		X		
Twenty-first Street School	N. 21st & W. Hadley	4	X		X		
Twenty-seventh Street School	N. 27th & W. McKinley	3	X		X		
Urban Waldorf School	N. 25th & W. Brown	6	X	X	X		
Victory School & Playfield	S. 23rd & W. Henry	6		X	X		
Vieau School	S. 4th & W. National	1					
Westside Academy I School	N. 31st & W. Brown	3	X		X		
Westside Academy II School	N. 36th & W. Brown	1					
Wheatley School	N. 20th & W. Wright	4	X		X		
Whitman School & Playfield	S. 54th & W. Plainfield	10	X	X	X	X	
Whittier School & Playfield	S. 3rd & W. Bottsford	7	X	X	X	X	X
Wisconsin Avenue School	N. 27th & W. Wisconsin	2			X		
Wisc. Conserv. Of Life Long Learning	S. Marilyn & W. Green	6			X		
Zablocki School	S. 10th & W. Oklahoma	4	X		X		

### MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOLS

Audubon Middle School	S. 39th & W. Ohio	8		X	X		
Bay View High School	S. Lenox & E. Montana	7				X	
Bell Middle School/Honey Creek School	S. 65th & W. Warnimont	15			X		X
Burdick School	S. Griffin & E. Bolivar	3		X	X		
Burroughs Middle School & Playfield and Milw. Sign Lang. School	N. 79th & W. Green Tree	18		X	X		
Custer High School/Stadium	N. Sherman & W. Fairmount	27			X	X	X
Edison Middle School	N. 37th & W. Custer	4			X		
Fritsche Middle School	S. Howell & E. Dewey	7		X	X		
Hamilton High School & Playfield	S. 62nd & W. Warnimont	20		X	X	X	
Juneau High School	N. 64th & W. Mt. Vernon					X	
King High School	N. 18th & W. Olive	12				X	X

## PART B --- MILWAUKEE PUBLIC SCHOOL PLAYGROUNDS & PLAYFIELDS

### MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOLS (CONTINUED)

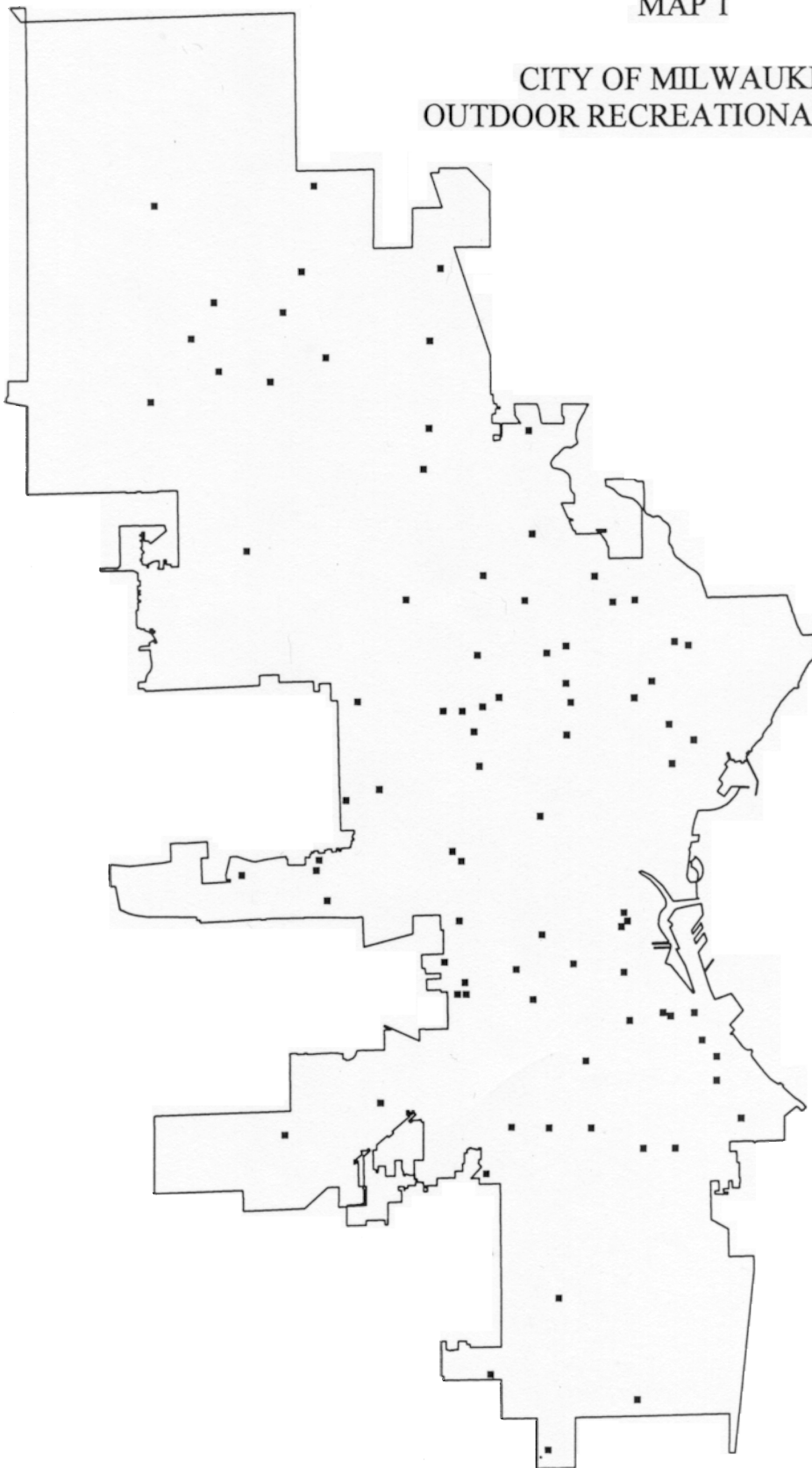
Name	Location	Acreage	Play Area	Softball/ Baseball	Basketball	Football/ Soccer	Tennis
Kosciuszko Middle School/So. Stadlum	S. 10th & W. Windlake	11			X	X	
Lincoln Middle School	N. Cass & W. Knapp	2					
Madison High School	N. 82nd & W. Florist	13		X	X	X	
Mashall High School	N. 64th & W. Fiebrantz	18		X	X	X	
Milwaukee High School of the Arts	N. 23rd & W. Highland	6					X
Milwaukee Trade & Technical High School	S. 3rd & W. Bruce	2				X	
Morse Middle School & Playfield	N. 84th & W. Glendale	14	X	X	X		
Muir Middle School	N. 72nd & W. Sheridan	9		X	X		
North Division High School	N. 11th & W. Center	13				X	X
Douglas Community Academy	N. 18th & W. Nash	7			X		
Pulaski High School & Stadium	S. 25th & W. Oklahoma	20				X	
Riverside High School & Playfield	N. Bartlett & E. Locust	19	X	X		X	X
Robinson Middle School	N. 37th & Fond Du Lac	5		X	X		
Roosevelt Middle School and Lapham Park Playground	N. 8th & W. Brown	20			X		
Scott Middle School	N. 12th & W. Highland	5		X	X		
Sholes Middle School	S. 20th & W. Halsey	10		X	X		
South Division High School	S. 15th & W. Lapham	11			X	X	X
Steuben Middle School	N. 52nd & W. Meinecke	4			X		
Vincent High School	Grandville & W. Calumet	39		X		X	
Walker Middle School	S. 32nd & W. Mitchell	4		X	X		
Washington High School	N. Sherman & W. Wright	7				X	
Webster Middle School	N. 53rd & W. Green Tree	22		X	X		
Milwaukee School of Languages	N. 84th & W. Burleigh	8		X	X		

## PART C --- OTHER CITY OR STATE AREAS

Name	Location	Acreage	Play Area	Softball/ Baseball	Basketball	Football/ Soccer	Tennis
Harbor Island (Proposed for inclusion in new Lakeshore State Park)	Lakefront	17				X	
Urban Park	N. Harbor & E. Michigan	5				X	
Maier Festival Park	Lakefront	62	X				
Bradley Woods Natural Area	N. 87th & W Dean	20					
Granville Woods Natural Area	N. 68th & Dean	15					
Westlawn Playground	N. 64th & W. Custer	3	X	X	X	X	
Havenwoods	N. 43rd & W. Silver Spring	237					

MAP 1

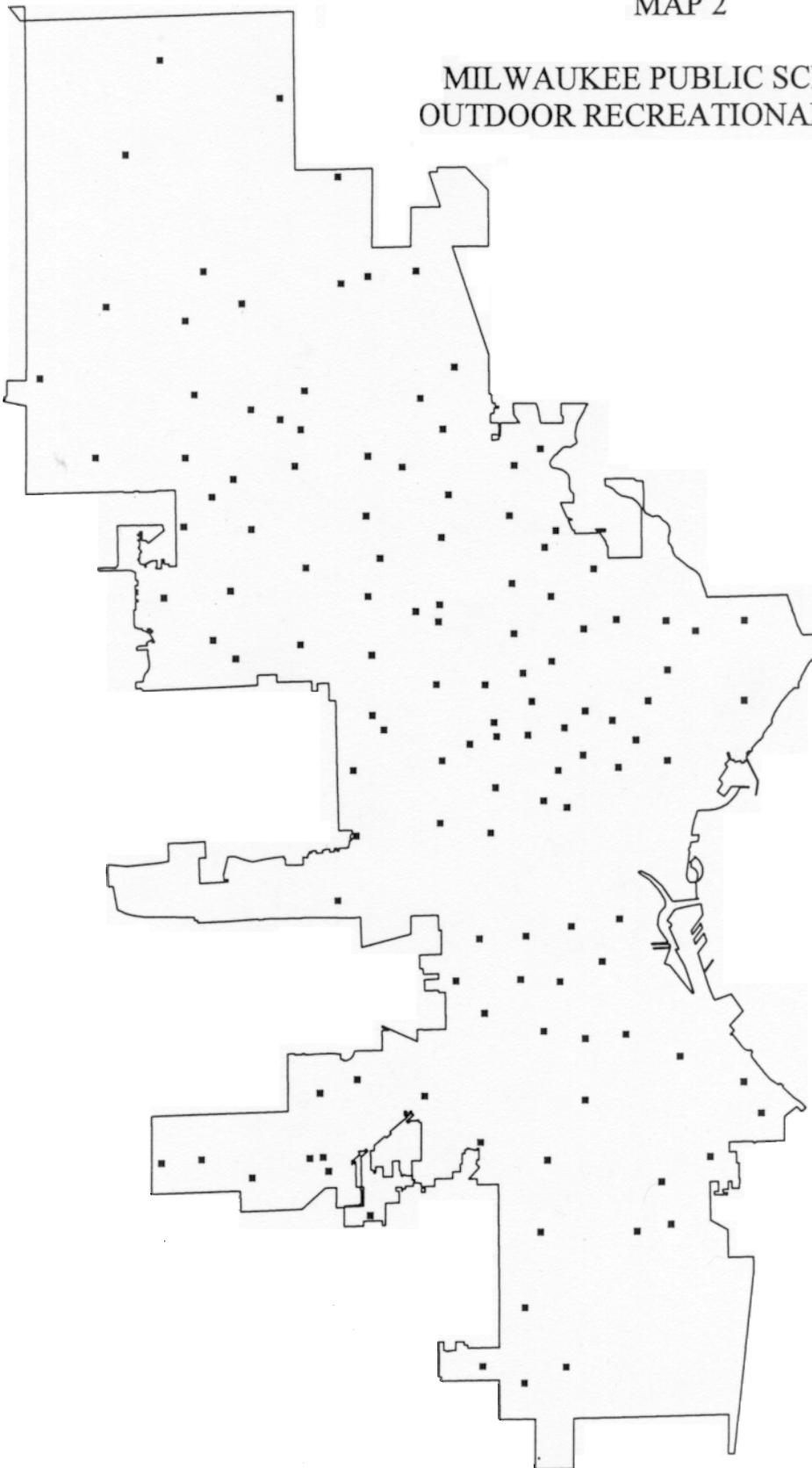
CITY OF MILWAUKEE  
OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL AREAS





MAP 2

MILWAUKEE PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL AREAS



## **CHAPTER 5: RECREATION GOALS AND POLICIES**

The City of Milwaukee has five major goals related to public outdoor recreational facilities. These goals and their supporting policies serve as a guide for the planning, coordination, and development of improvements to the recreation system.

### ***GOAL 1***

***To ensure that the city has adequate public outdoor recreational facilities for all of its citizens***

#### **Supporting Policies**

Continue to monitor the maintenance needs of all facilities;

Continue to monitor population and recreation trends affecting recreational service needs;

Emphasize the redevelopment and improvement of facilities in high need areas;

Work with the County and State to ensure that adequate park facilities are provided for city neighborhoods;

Provide recreational facilities which can be utilized in programs to bolster the self-esteem of children and help prevent self-destructive and socially-destructive behavior; and

Work with neighborhood organizations and residents in assessing recreational needs and evaluating new projects and recreation goals.

## ***GOAL 2***

### ***To ensure the best and most efficient use of the City's resources in meeting recreation needs***

#### **Supporting Policies**

Consider the costs and benefits of any proposals for acquisition, development, or disposition of a recreational area;

Monitor the maintenance needs of the City's facilities to better detect and predict these needs and to program maintenance projects in the most cost-efficient manner;

Give priority to the more intensive use of existing sites in high need areas, rather than the acquisition of new sites;

Identify, evaluate, and possibly dispose of underutilized or surplus sites;

Evaluate the long-term impact on operating costs of any proposed facility acquisitions or improvements;

Continue installing resilient surfacing at children's play areas to increase safety and reduce maintenance costs;

Encourage neighborhood involvement in the operation of public outdoor recreational facilities;

Incorporate recycled end products in City playgrounds as technology advances;

Aggressively pursue available State and Federal funding for recreational facility improvements;

Work towards increasing the funds available at the State and Federal level to address urban recreation needs; and

Implement all mandated requirements of the Federal, State, and local governments.

## ***GOAL 3***

### ***To balance recreational development with the City's goals for other land uses and transportation***

#### **Supporting Policies**

Emphasize the redevelopment and improvement of public outdoor recreational facilities to support surrounding neighborhoods;

Not remove viable housing for recreational development;

Reserve land in developing areas for future recreational development;

Not develop recreational facilities until actual need exists;

Include recreational facilities planning in the City's comprehensive planning process and coordinate recreational facilities planning with planning for other land uses, transportation systems, and other public facilities;

Develop outdoor recreational facilities which can provide a focal point for neighborhood activities;

Coordinate recreational facility improvements with neighborhood redevelopment efforts; and

Coordinate with other agencies and private organizations in the creation of bicycle and pedestrian trails.

## ***GOAL 4***

### ***To conserve natural resources and significant natural features***

#### **Supporting Policies**

Work with the County and State toward increasing access to public lands fronting on Lake Michigan, river-edge properties, or other sites identified by the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission as environmental corridor lands or isolated high-value natural areas;

Participate in intergovernmental committees focused on the preservation, restoration, and development of waterfront areas for recreation; and

Continue to apply for available State and Federal funding to preserve, acquire, and/or develop areas with natural resource value.

## ***GOAL 5***

***To ensure that adequate public recreational facilities are accessible and available to people with disabilities***

### **Supporting Policies**

Continue evaluating all recreational facilities for compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA);

Rehabilitate existing recreational facilities throughout the city, so that barrier-free recreational opportunities are available to citizens in all Milwaukee neighborhoods; and

Construct new facilities to be barrier-free to people with disabilities.

## CHAPTER 6: NEEDS ANALYSIS

A number of approaches were taken in assessing recreational needs for this plan. These approaches included an analysis of citywide acreage needs, a review of public input, an evaluation of recreational demand and supply using operational data, and an analysis of the expected financial capabilities for dealing with recreational system needs.

Two recreation reports were reviewed during the preparation of this plan, with particular attention paid to the reports' identification of recreational needs in the Milwaukee area.

### **1. Recreation Recovery Action Program**

In 1992, the City and Milwaukee Public Schools prepared a joint public outdoor recreation plan, "A Recreation Recovery Action Program for Milwaukee County and the City of Milwaukee"; the completion of this plan entitles the City and County to apply for recreational assistance grants under the federal Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Program. The focus of this plan was a discussion of the service, management, physical, and rehabilitation issues facing Milwaukee-area public recreation providers. Some of the conclusions of this report are that:

Central city residents are not served by open space to the extent that other Milwaukee County residents are served, which is a special problem for transit-dependent people or people with disabilities.

Maintenance and rehabilitation costs of facilities are rising rapidly due to deterioration from facility aging and increased usage.

Recreational facilities in the older parts of the City and County are in the greatest need of rehabilitation; recreational alternatives can be enhanced by rehabilitating and expanding existing facilities and equipment in these older areas.

Recent funding priorities and budget requirements have inhibited implementation of plans to acquire and improve public recreational areas.

Recreational programs for children can be a significant factor in preventing self-destructive and socially destructive behaviors from developing. More children need to be involved in structured recreation programs, and the hours that programs operate need to be expanded.

The City's Recreation Recovery Action Program has been re-certified by the National Park Service and will be in effect through September 30, 2001.

## **2. The State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)**

In the "2000 - 2005 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan" (SCORP) prepared by the Wisconsin Department of Resources (DNR), five major statewide issues were identified facing outdoor recreation in Wisconsin.

- Multiple Recreational Activities Competing For the Same Limited Recreation Resources.
- Changing Land Uses, Ownership and Regulations Reduce Recreational Opportunities and Diminish Resource Quality.
- Financial Resources Are Increasingly Strained to Meet Costs of Operating and Maintaining Recreation Resources.
- Overall, People Lack Outdoor Skills and Ethics and Knowledge of Available Outdoor Recreation Opportunities.
- DNR Should Provide Leadership In Planning For Outdoor Recreation Activities.

The SCORP also reviewed trends in outdoor recreation in Wisconsin and three broad categories were developed. Tier I activities with participation rates between 50 and 90 percent included: walking and driving for pleasure, swimming, wildlife viewing and picnicking. Tier II activities with participation rates between 30 and 50 percent included; bicycling, hiking, fishing, nature study or bird watching, boating and nature photography. Tier III activities with participation rates up to 30 percent included; from golf to windsurfing. The SCORP also identified recreation activities meriting special attention. Of the activities listed, in-line skating, skateboard parks and soccer, are activities that have found wider appeal and should be of special interest to us in the near future.

As stated in the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, the goal is to "identify issues of significance that need to be considered when developing policies, programs, or actions at the state or local level, that will affect outdoor recreation in the future."

### **ANALYSIS OF CITYWIDE ACREAGE NEEDS**

Playgrounds, playfields, neighborhood parks, and community parks are the four types of recreational areas, which serve population at the neighborhood and community level. According to the spatial standards, which were summarized in Chapter 3, for every 1,000 people in the city there should be 1.25 playground acres, 1.25 playfield acres, 1.0 neighborhood park acre, and 1.0 community park acre.

Table 4 compares the acreage needs for playgrounds, playfields, neighborhood parks, and community parks with the estimated acreage of each type of public (City, County, and State) area in the city. The acreage needs were calculated by applying Table 1's standards to the City's 1990 Census population of 628,088.



**TABLE 4**  
**COMPARISON OF THE PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL**  
**ACREAGE IN THE CITY**  
**WITH THE NEED DEFINED BY SPATIAL STANDARDS**

	<u>Actual Acreage</u>	<u>Acreage Needs Per Spatial Standards</u>	<u>Difference</u>
<b>Playground</b>	761 <sup>a</sup>	785	- 24
<b>Playfield</b>	880	785	+ 95
<b>Neighborhood Park</b>	755	628	+ 127
<b>Community Park</b>	1,601	628	+ 973
<b>Total</b>	3,987 <sup>b</sup>	2,826	+ 1,161

<sup>a</sup> Unlike the data in Table 3, the acreage numbers in this table exclude the footprint area of MPS schools.

<sup>b</sup> The city contains an additional 1,977 acres in metropolitan parks, parkways, and nature centers for a total public outdoor recreational acreage of 5,964.

In estimating acreage by area type, all recreational functions served by a site were considered. For example, a neighborhood park or a playfield may also serve playground needs, and a community park may also function as a neighborhood park, a playfield, and a playground. To avoid double counting, the portions of larger facilities serving different functions were estimated based on available facilities.

Table 4 indicates that the city exceeds the standards in playfield, neighborhood park, and community park space; the analysis shows that the city is close to meeting the standard for playground space. In total, the spatial standards indicate that the city should have 2,826 recreational acres of playgrounds, playfields, neighborhood parks, and community parks. The city's actual total public outdoor recreational acreage of 3,987 in these four types of areas is 1,161 acres above this standard.

The city also contains 1,977 acres of public outdoor recreational land in parkways, nature centers, and metropolitan parks, excluding acreage in these facilities estimated to serve as playground, playfield, neighborhood park, and community park space. In total, the city contains 5,964 acres of public outdoor recreational space. General recreational standards state that there should be a total of 10 acres of recreational space per 1,000 people; according to this standard, the city requires 6,288 acres, for a total recreational deficit of 324 acres.

However, this deficit does not mean that a massive acquisition and development program is required or advisable. Many city residents are within the service areas of suburban Milwaukee County parks. The County has 10,186 acres of parks and parkways outside the city limits and 4,539 acres inside the city for a total Milwaukee County acreage of 14,725. To meet the 10-acre per 1,000 population standard, Milwaukee's 1990 population of 959,275 would need 9,593 acres. Therefore, on a countywide basis, there are 5,132 more County park acres than the standards suggest are required. If the acreage of Milwaukee Public Schools, City and other municipality outdoor recreational areas were included, the number of acres in excess of the standards would be even greater.

Another reason that a massive acquisition and development program is not required is that there is additional open space not tabulated in the inventory. This additional open space includes recreational areas of colleges and other institutions, parochial school playgrounds, and other privately owned facilities; many of these sites are made available to the general public. The inventory also does not include indoor recreation centers operated by the Milwaukee Public Schools.

## **PUBLIC INPUT ASSESSMENT**

The City and MPS consider the level of public demand in setting recreational project priorities. Public input is incorporated into recreational facility planning through a number of strategies.

One indicator of public demand is whether there are waiting lists to use recreational facilities. Another indicator is the level of community interest in a particular project, as evidenced by telephone calls, letters, or petitions. Milwaukee's citizens voice their comments to their elected representatives on the City's Common Council and MPS's School Board, who then relay this information to City and MPS recreational facility staff. Citizens also contact recreational facilities staff directly.

There is also an opportunity for public comment at the Plan Commission and Council subcommittee meetings at which this plan is reviewed. A formal public hearing on the plan is held at the Plan Commission meeting. These reviews are completed before the final review of the plan by the full Common Council.

## **ANALYSIS OF DEMAND AND SUPPLY USING OPERATIONAL DATA**

Data from the day-to-day operation of recreational facilities by the Department of School and Community Services and the Department of Public Works is an important means to identify capital improvement needs.

One source of information used in this assessment is attendance data. The Department of School and Community Services began recording attendance data on computer files in 1979. If a site or facility has much higher than normal attendance, it may indicate the need for additional neighborhood facilities. Very low attendance may indicate that the site or facility is not essential to the recreation system.

Because attendance is a measure of other factors besides service needs, such as site accessibility, supervision, physical condition, and programming, which are different at each site, it would be misleading to systematically analyze attendance data and determine need based on this data alone. But attendance data can be used in conjunction with other data to identify special needs and to set priorities among recreational projects.

Another type of information used in needs assessment is the physical condition of recreational sites. This information is obtained from field staff involved in maintaining and supervising the facilities.

In addition to attendance and maintenance data, the city's evaluation also includes a review of the estimated population density of children 12 years and younger living within a quarter mile of the site.

During the late 1970's and early 1980's, the City's outdoor recreational facilities increased substantially because federal programs such as Community Block Grant and Economic Development were available to fund improvements to neighborhood recreational facilities. As these sites have aged, they require more intensive maintenance. At the same time, the maintenance budgets of the Milwaukee Public Schools and City Recreational Facilities have remained at about the same funding level.

For this reason Milwaukee Public Schools and the City's Recreational Facilities will continue to incorporate as much low-maintenance play equipment as possible whenever play areas are rehabilitated or constructed.

## **FINANCIAL CAPABILITIES**

The City of Milwaukee has had various sources of funding through the years, but the most reliable has been the City of Milwaukee's Capital Improvement Fund. In the late 1970's and the early 1980's, the City received substantial amounts of federal funds for outdoor recreation construction projects. The federal funding has not been available for the past six years. However, current federal appropriation legislation indicates that funds may be available in the future.

Table 5 shows funds allocated for recreational capital improvements during the last 10 years.

**TABLE 5**

**TOTAL ALLOCATIONS FOR RECREATIONAL FACILITY PROJECTS  
1991 - 2000**

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>1991</b>	<b>1992</b>	<b>1993</b>	<b>1994</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b><u>City Permanent Improvement Program</u></b>											
School Sites	176,000	30,000	364,000	82,000	55,000	170,000	220,000	210,000	275,000	146,000	\$ 1,728,000
City Playfields / Playgrounds	175,000	68,000	56,000		305,000	70,000	72,000	172,000	111,500	100,000	\$ 1,129,500
City Neighborhood Play Areas	173,000	212,000	277,000	437,000	315,000	260,000	208,000	118,000	163,500	254,000	\$ 2,417,500
<b><u>Private Contributions</u></b>											
City Playfields / Playgrounds					178,000			79,000			\$ 257,000
City Neighborhood Play Areas						10,000					\$ 10,000
<b><u>Community Development Agency</u></b>											
								Yr 24	Yr 25	Yr 26	
School Sites										40,000	\$ 40,000
City Playfields / Playgrounds								48,425	40,000		\$ 88,425
City Neighborhood Play Areas								50,000	45,000		\$ 95,000
<b><u>Department of City Development</u></b>											
City Playfields / Playgrounds										18,000	\$ 18,000
<b>Total Allocation</b>	<b>\$524,000</b>	<b>\$310,000</b>	<b>\$697,000</b>	<b>\$519,000</b>	<b>\$853,000</b>	<b>\$510,000</b>	<b>\$500,000</b>	<b>\$677,425</b>	<b>\$635,000</b>	<b>\$558,000</b>	<b>\$ 5,783,425</b>

## **CHAPTER 7: THE LOCAL ACTION PLAN**

The Local Action Plan for 2001 to 2005 addresses the recreation needs identified in the previous sections of this plan in a manner which is consistent with the City's recreation goals and general policies. The Local Action Plan also addresses many of the needs identified in the revised "Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan" (SCORP), which was discussed in Chapter 6 of this plan.

The Local Action Plan is composed of two parts. The first part describes general recommendations to guide the operation and development of the City's public outdoor recreation system. The second part contains specific recommendations for improving and developing recreational facilities.

### **GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Local Action Plan defines seven general recommendations relating to the City's public outdoor recreation system. The general recommendations are:

1. That the City and MPS continue to monitor maintenance needs of recreational sites and use this data to schedule maintenance and improvement projects;
2. That the City and MPS continue their policy of extending the use of existing sites by developing them more intensively;
3. That the City and MPS assess the costs of proposed recreational facility acquisitions, improvements, and dispositions;
4. That the City work with other governmental and private organizations in improving public access to natural resource areas in the city;
5. That the City and MPS continue to review the current utilization of their public outdoor recreational facilities; and
6. That the City and MPS utilize the safest and most technically advanced recreational systems.
7. That the City work with the County and various stake holders to update the City's comprehensive bicycle plan.

### **Recommendation 1: Monitoring Maintenance Needs**

Both the City's Department of Public Works and the Milwaukee Public Schools' Department of School and Community Services periodically survey the physical condition of their outdoor recreation areas. These surveys allow staff to more effectively and efficiently schedule routine maintenance projects and identify needed special capital improvement projects. Maintenance needs can be detected before they become major problems, resulting in minimal disruptions in service and lower costs for repairs.

The City and MPS should continue to monitor maintenance needs and use this data to schedule needed maintenance and improvement projects. Those sites in the poorest condition should be evaluated to determine whether any changes in equipment, design, or programming could reduce future maintenance needs.

### **Recommendation 2: Extending the Use of Existing Sites**

Recreational improvements do not necessarily have to be accomplished by acquiring new sites or by building new facilities. Recreational system improvements may also be accomplished by more intensively developing existing, underutilized recreational areas.

The major factor favoring the development of existing sites over acquisition is cost. Adding facilities to existing, underutilized sites and making improvements to existing facilities is less expensive in overall development costs and in long-term maintenance and operating costs.

Another factor is a lack of available sites for recreational development, especially in the older, more densely developed sections of the city. The City does not wish to remove viable housing or other development to provide new recreational areas.

The City and MPS should therefore continue their policy of extending the use of existing facilities by developing or improving them. In addition, the City and MPS should review their existing recreational sites in light of the recreational needs to determine if any sites should be more intensively developed. This review should be done every five years.

### **Recommendation 3: Assessing the Costs and Benefits of Acquisition, Improvement, and Disposition Proposals**

To make the best and most efficient use of their financial and physical resources, the City and MPS should evaluate the costs and benefits of proposals to acquire new recreational sites, proposals to improve existing recreational sites either by adding new facilities or by rehabilitating or upgrading existing facilities, and proposals to dispose of recreational sites for non-recreational uses.

The criteria that should be used to evaluate proposals are grouped into three categories based on the impact on service needs of the city's population, the impact on the operation of the city's recreation system, and the impact on other land uses and development in the city. Some of the criteria may not apply to certain proposals, and the criteria may vary in importance depending on the proposal.

### Impact on Service Needs

Priority should be given to acquisition and improvement proposals, which qualitatively or quantitatively increase recreational service to the city's population. Disposition proposals should only be approved if they would not seriously affect service provision. The criteria to evaluate are:

Whether a special recreation need is met;

Whether a special population is served;

Whether substantial unmet need is demonstrated by attendance data, waiting lists, or service area population statistics;

Whether the current or expected future population of the target age group in the service area is large enough to support the facility;

Whether the facility, if neighborhood oriented, is easily accessible to pedestrians; otherwise whether it is accessible by public transportation; and

Whether the community supports the proposal.

### Impact on System Operations

Proposals should be evaluated to determine the impact on the operation of the City and MPS recreational facility system. Priority should be given to acquisition and improvement proposals, which would improve or maintain the efficiency of recreation system operation. Disposition proposals should generally be approved if the sites are unnecessary to the system or if the sites cannot be operated efficiently. The criteria are:

Whether other facilities in the service area are sufficient to meet needs;

Whether there are other more suitable sites (either vacant land or an existing recreational site) in the service area that could be developed to meet area recreation needs;

Whether the facility is adaptable to future changes in area recreation needs and population;

Whether the project is cost-effective in capital and operating costs, and whether maintenance costs are expected to be comparable to those of other sites in the system; and

Whether the site is large enough to support multiple recreational uses and to be maintained in a cost-efficient manner, or whether it would be feasible to consolidate it with a larger facility.

### Impact on Land Use and Development

The criteria evaluating the impact on other land use development in the city would generally apply to acquisition and disposition proposals, not to proposals for facility improvement. The criteria are:

Whether the site preserves a significant environmental feature;

Whether the site is part of a special public or private development;

Whether recreational use of the site would eliminate housing or other viable development (acquisition proposals only);

Whether there is a significant need for new residential, commercial, or other non-recreational use of this site;

Whether surrounding land uses are compatible with recreational use of this site; and

Whether the project would eliminate any existing land use which is detrimental to health or safety (acquisition proposals only).

### **Recommendation 4: Working with Other Governmental and Private Organizations in Improving Public Access to Natural Resource Areas**

The conservation of natural features is one of the City's recreation goals. The City will continue working with the County, the State, the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage Commission, businesses and other organizations toward improving public natural resource areas and increasing access to public lands fronting on Lake Michigan, the Menomonee, Milwaukee, and Kinnickinnic Rivers and all their tributaries. Examples of activities currently underway include the Menomonee Valley Plan and the Hank Aaron State trail.

The City of Milwaukee's comprehensive plan for the Menomonee Valley was adopted by the Common Council in the fall of 1998. This plan, entitled "A Market Study, Engineering and Land Use Plan for the Menomonee Valley", was co-sponsored by the City of Milwaukee, the Menomonee Valley Business Association and the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District. The Valley plan includes recommendations to enhance the appearance of the Menomonee Valley through the creation of green space and other amenities.

The Hank Aaron State Trail is expected to model this "greening" through 1. its use of native plantings 2. The development of small recreational places such as picnic areas and vest pocket parks along the trail and 3. Larger changes such as attempting to bring parts of the river's edge back to a more natural state.



Opportunities exist for civic, community and other groups to enhance areas of the trail or to work with landowners on walking and biking paths and other passive green space in this densely-built, urban manufacturing environment. An example is Keep Greater Milwaukee Beautiful's campaign to clean up and enhance the passenger rail corridor that traverses the Valley.

The City will also continue its efforts to guide development along the Milwaukee River in accordance with the four principles defined in the City's Riverlink Guidelines, which were developed jointly with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and completed in March 1992: 1. to provide public access to the river, 2. to restore and protect the river as a natural resource, 3. to utilize the river as an urban amenity, with opportunities for both active and passive recreational pursuits, and 4. to maintain the river as a navigational resource.

The Riverlink Guidelines emphasize the development of riverwalks as the primary way to improve pedestrian access to the Milwaukee River and set forth guidelines for riverwalks and other development along the river.

Another important intergovernmental, natural resource preservation project concerns the Lake Michigan lakefront. The Mayor's Lakefront Planning Task Force published their findings in the September 1992 report "A Plan for Milwaukee's Lakefront," which was adopted by the Milwaukee Common Council in November 1993. The Task Force recommended that public access to the lakefront be maximized through the development of pathways and bikeways, that availability and environmental quality of lakefront parklands be preserved and enhanced, and that private and public development along the lakefront be compatible. Currently, the State of Wisconsin, City of Milwaukee, Port Authority and Milwaukee Art Museum are working together in planning improvement projects for land along the lakefront.

#### **Recommendation 5: Reviewing the Current Utilization of Public Outdoor Recreational Facilities**

The City and MPS will continue to study the recreational use at all City and MPS outdoor recreational sites on an annual basis. Changes and or modifications to the city's recreational facilities will be made as necessary.

MPS will continue to train staff in customer service and utilize those principals in assessing needs, developing surveys and focus groups.

#### **Recommendation 6: Utilizing the Safest and Most Technically Advanced Recreational Systems**

It is anticipated that technology development and design in playground equipment will change and improve rapidly in the future. The City and MPS will continue to monitor advances in play equipment design, especially those which will improve the safety of children and those which can reduce maintenance costs, and will incorporate these advances wherever feasible.

One area of recent technological development is the use of recycled materials. The City of Milwaukee is attempting to use as much post-consumer recycled materials in playground equipment as is possible within various federal guidelines and standards. As the technology improves, additional products will be considered for evaluation and use within the scope of apparatus used on playgrounds.

**Recommendation 7: Work with the County and various stake holders to update the City's comprehensive bicycle plan**

The Common Council adopted the City of Milwaukee's bicycle plan "Bicycle Milwaukee" in 1993. The goal of this plan is "to increase commuter and recreational bicycling in the City of Milwaukee". Because of the increased interest that has developed in bicycling, the city will strive to include interested citizens and groups in the process of updating the city's bicycle plan. The city will also continue to coordinate with the county in implementing an integrated routing plan to maximize the commuting and recreational opportunities of both the city's and county's bicycle systems.

## **SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS -- LOCAL ACTION PROGRAM**

The specific City and MPS proposals for recreational capital improvements were developed in accordance with the goals, policies, and needs discussed in this report.

### *SPECIAL PROJECTS*

The following sites within the City outdoor recreational system have been given special project status in this plan, because these sites serve a multitude of functions over and above neighborhood recreational uses. These sites are placed in this special category to provide the flexibility to initiate improvements as these projects may become eligible for various existing and potential future grant programs. Some of these projects are listed in other City long-term plans; they are shown in this five year plan in order to provide a summary of potential improvements to special City public outdoor recreational facilities.

The projects are:

Hawthorn Glen Environmental Center, 1140 N. 60th St.

The Center is used by 130,000 visitors each year. It is in need of constant updating in order to provide the most current environmental educational information within a natural recreation setting.

#### **Milwaukee River-Related Improvements**

Kilbourn Park should be expanded by extending it down the bluff to North Commerce Street. This will create new pedestrian links from the neighborhood on top of the bluff to the river and establish a new bike trail along a former railroad corridor.

City-owned land should be improved along the former North Avenue impoundment.

The Riverwalk should be extended incrementally on both sides of the river from the harbor entrance to the North Avenue dam and should eventually link the Lakewalk and the Hank Aaron Trail.

#### **Menomonee River Valley Related Improvements**

All necessary actions should be taken to continue the extension and development of the Hank Aaron Trail through the Valley.

Riverfront amenities including trails, a plaza and a park should be developed as indicated in the Menomonee Valley Land Use Plan.

Construction of additional wetlands for storm water and flood control, water quality improvement and open space should be considered where appropriate.

#### Milwaukee Lakefront-Related Improvements

In October 1998, the City and the State of Wisconsin began a collaborative planning process for a new Lakeshore State Park that would incorporate Harbor Island. The plan for Lakeshore State Park is expected to be completed by the end of 2000. The Lakeshore State Park plan, when completed, will be submitted to the Common Council for its adoption, including amendment of this plan to reflect the recommendations of the Lakeshore State Park plan.

Fences should be removed at the Municipal Pier, and a perimeter Lakewalk should be developed.

Kaszube Park should be relocated to a more accessible location.

Fishing opportunities should be improved along the lakefront. Enhancements to make facilities more accessible for anglers should be considered whenever any lakefront improvements are proposed.

A continuous and coordinated network of pedestrian and bicycle pathways should be developed throughout the lakefront lands.

## ***REHABILITATION PROJECTS***

This list of sites represents the projects proposed for rehabilitation that are expected to be developed in the next five years, given anticipated future funding. If unanticipated requests or mandates necessitate additional projects, they will be added as an amendment to this plan.

Burbank Playfield, 6225 W. Adler St.

Replace wading pool filtration equipment

Restoration of ball diamond

Burnham Playfield, 1755 S. 32nd St.

Reconstruct children's play area

Replace wading pool filtration equipment

Surface maintenance on six tennis courts

Restoration of ball diamond

Carmen Playfield, 7320 W. Carmen Ave.

Reconstruct children's play area

Cleveland Playground, 1020 W. Cleveland Ave.

Replace wading pool filtration equipment

Columbia Playground, 1345 W. Columbia St.

Reconstruct children's play area

Remove excess asphalt playground, replace with grass

Enderis Playfield, 2938 N. 72nd St.

Replace wading pool filtration equipment

Surface maintenance on two tennis courts

Franklin Square Playground, 2643 N. 13th St.

Reconstruct children's play area

Gra-Ram Playfield, 3050 W. Green Ave.

Reconstruct children's play area

Reconstruct two tennis courts

Green Bay Playfield, 3818 N. 8th St.

Reconstruct children's play area

Holt Playground, 1716 W. Holt Ave.

Reconstruct children's play area

Replace wading pool filtration equipment

Jewell Playfield, 1810 W. Jewell Ave.

Reconstruct playground & basketball court

Restoration of ball diamond

Juneau Playfield, 6500 W. Mt. Vernon Ave.

Reconstruct six tennis courts

Restoration of ball diamond

Lewis Playfield, 1424, E. Pryor Ave.

Reconstruct children's play area

Lincoln Playfield, 300 W. Lincoln Ave.

Reconstruct five tennis courts

Restoration of ball diamond

Merrill Park, 461 N. 35th St.

Replace wading pool filtration equipment

Restoration of ball diamond

Ohio Playground, 974 W. Holt Ave.

Reconstruct children's play area

Replace wading pool filtration equipment

Surface maintenance on two tennis courts

Pulaski Playground, 1840 N. Pulaski St.

Reconstruct children's play area

Reservoir Park, 801 E. North Av.

Reconstruct children's play area

Sijan Playfield, 2821 S. Kinnickinnic Ave.

Reconstruct children's play area

Surface maintenance on six tennis courts

Vincent Playfield, 7501 N. Granville Rd.

Reconstruct eight tennis courts

Restoration of ball diamonds

Wick Playfield, 4929 W. Vliet St.

Reconstruct eight tennis courts

Reconstruct parking lot

Alcott Playfield, 3563 S. 97th St.

Reconstruct four tennis courts

Browning Playfield, 5576 N. 76th St.

Restoration of ball diamond

Bryant Playfield, 5726 N. 89th St.

Surface maintenance on four tennis courts

Restoration of ball diamond

Cooper Playfield, 2236 W. Abbott Ave.

Restoration of ball diamond

Fairview Playfield, 6500 W. Kinnickinic Pkw.

Restoration of ball diamond

Garden Homes Playfield, 4456 N. Teutonia Ave.

Restoration of ball diamond

Lowell Playfield, 4360 S. 20th St.

Reconstruct two tennis courts

Restoration of ball diamond

Riverside Playfield, N. Bartlett Av. & E. Park Pl.

Surface maintenance on tennis courts

Seventy-eight St. Playfield, 3727 S. 78th St.

Reconstruct four tennis courts

Restoration of ball diamonds

Hamilton/Bell, S. 63rd St. & W. Warnimont Ave.

Reconstruct six tennis Courts

Whitman Playfield, 5250 W. LeRoy Ave.

Restoration of ball diamonds

Whittier Playfield, 4382 S. 3rd St.

Restoration of ball diamond



Ellen Park, 1829 E. Fernwood Ave.

Reconstruct children's play area

Reconstruct two ball diamonds

Reconstruct two tennis courts

Reconstruct two basketball courts

River Bend, 3305 S. 73rd St.

Reconstruct children's play area

Reiske Park, 1640 S. 24th St.

Reconstruct two tennis courts

40th & Douglas, 3919 W. Douglas Rd.

Construct children's play area

Reconstruct two basketball courts

90th & Bender, 8900 W. Bender Rd.

Restoration of ball diamonds

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